RG104 E-1 Box 138 Feb-Apr 1886

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,
MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 30th March, 1886

Hon. D. M. Fox,
Superintendent
Sir,

I received this morning a pencilled note from "Lobo" purporting to convey from you a request that I should put Charles E. Knight into Stull's place, as the latter is to be removed. Permit me to draw your attention to the fact, that Charles E. Knight, however excellent a man he is, and so far he has proved himself to be such, has not the special skill required for Stull's place, and would require considerable practice to acquire that skill, even if he were adapted to the specialty of Stull's position. The different positions in my melting Department demand each, not only the skill of some continuous practice

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but also a special adaptation to each position, in order to secure the greatest advantage to the Government, and the men I have had in each position have aquired their positions by showing such skill and adaptation. Some men that I have can never make tolerable melters. Again, there is one man whom I have been narrowly observing, who I am satisfied ought now to be put into a melter's position, & that he would take the first place therein, viz. James Nuneviler. Experience alone should decide upon a man's place. I certainly deem it against the true interests of the Government to displace Stull, unless we can find one to take his place, which we can do in a reasonable time, but not at once. In regard to the Reports of his interference in politicks, I have the best reason to believe them false. He was so reported on last election day, when in truth he was at the furnace from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M.

If any one is to be advanced to the position of grain melter, occupied now by Stull, it should be such an

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one, as Nuneviler, who exhibits all the properties requisite for the situation, close attention to what is before him, and to all the circumstances of the melting, with a view to the greatest economy, while he has that sturdy strength that enables him to effect his object, in the shortest time, & in the cleanest manner.

If Jos. Stutt has given himself to politicks, which is just the opposite of what I hear of him, then of course I will say nothing against his replacement, but will only solicit that we may hold on to him just so long as to impart his ways of working to another

Very respectfully

Ja^s C Booth

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Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT,

March 30, 1886.

Booth.

Melter and Refiner.

Relative to request that Chas. E. Knight should be put into "Hulls" place.

No. of Enclosures,

Recd Mch 30 · 1886

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 138

[Abstract:] Relative to request that Chas. E. Knight should be put into "Stulls place".

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,
Melting and Refining Department,
Philadelphia,
March 30, 1886

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Very respectfully,
Jas. C. Booth